

# SOUTH BEND NEWS-TIMES

THE NEWS-TIMES PRINTING CO., PUBLISHERS.

210 WEST COLFAX AV.

Entered as second class matter at the Postoffice at South Bend, Indiana

SUBSCRIPTION RATES.

Daily and Sunday in advance, in city, 12c per year  
Daily and Sunday in advance, by mail, 15c per year  
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SOUTH BEND, INDIANA, SEPTEMBER 14, 1916.

## THE QUESTION OF A MILITARY CITIZENSHIP.

With a law on the statute books, state or national, establishing a court of arbitration for compulsory settlement of labor disputes, and another law reserving the citizen militia exclusively for national defense and to suppress invasion or insurrection against the government, then we would say the movement for the maintenance of a citizen military camp in each of the various states of the union would be a very good thing. It is the uses to which state militias have been put at Lawrence, Mass., Houghton, Mich., and Ludlow, Colo., that have brought such organizations into the disrepute that has of late years made their up-keep difficult. If, with state militias on the decline, the movement for citizen militia, through training camps, etc., is being inaugurated by the Rockefeller, the "copper kings," and the woolen mill "wage slaves," under the disguise of promoting patriotism, but in reality to institute a sort of conscript system with trained conscripts at its base, the desirability of the accomplishment is reduced to a minimum.

We disagree absolutely with the statement made at the meeting at the Oliver hotel, Saturday night, that our lack of interest in military affairs marks a decline in our national patriotism. Patriotism does not necessarily call for the shedding of anybody's blood, and ought not be confounded with militarism in any sense of either term. The United States will never be men to fight its battles when their services are really needed. If they will but get a hump on, and have in readiness plenty of guns of proper force, and ammunition, with enough skilled leaders to officer its forces, you can trust pretty well to the common sense and patriotism of Americans to fill up the ranks and with a reasonable efficiency.

These trained officers can be had, and a reasonable force of regulars to support them and in training, if Washington will but substitute better salaries for the men, for the army and navy graze so long in vogue; and, this supplemented by efficiency rather than political tests as the basis for promotions, will make a military career more worth the trying. We are still for the volunteer army. A military training would of course be a good thing for the volunteers, and we are not opposed to it, but a military training with a string on it that is equivalent to conscription, though couched under a different head, and available for any other purpose than for national defense, or to suppress insurrection, is a different matter.

A citizen militia might or might not be conducive to a larger patriotism, and, it might, or it might not, result in a tendency toward national militarism. In all probability when the war in Europe is over, as it some day will be, and the war spirit is less in the ascendancy than it is now, even at this distance, much of this brand of patriotism which just now seems to be itching for fight will need occasional applications of salt to keep it active. We doubt very much if the people of America will, when peace is restored, care to give very much of their time to preparations for killing people, or even resist being killed, when there is no very immediate danger in sight, and for that reason we doubt if a military spirit, to the point of creating a militarism of national caste, will ever be possible.

It is well and good that the young men of the United States should be taught how to handle a gun, keep step, and properly salute an officer. The discipline of it is worth something. In fact, we regard it as worth more as a matter of discipline than for anything else, unless, it may be that, with the masses more subject to call, it would have a tendency to reduce jingoism. The jingoist, as a rule, is a man who is pretty certain that he won't have to fight—a very good agitator for the "war trust," another brand of patriotism that is longer on dividends than on any branch of the public safety.

We would not discourage a citizens' military camp in Indiana, nor a state convention such as it is proposed to put it up to Gov. Ralston to call. There are various considerations, however, that should be brought before the convention, and we have referred to only a few of them.

## VOCATIONAL LUNACY IN THE PUBLIC SCHOOLS.

The decision of Supt. J. L. Montgomery, Prof. L. Sims, or whatever the authority, that there will be no closing of the high school to afford pupils an opportunity to attend the Interstate fair, suggests that the "big noise" more than occasionally vibrating from their direction, spouting about vocational training, domestic science, etc., might with consistency be subjected to a muffer.

It might be appropriate to dismiss the school in sections and even require that the pupils attend the fair in a body under the chaperonage of the teachers, but they should not only be permitted, but actually required to

attend that fair, and learn something. It would by no means be out of place if it were insisted that each pupil write a report on his observations at the fair—affording them a little practical training in English composition. To talk practicalizing the learning in the public schools, and then shut off an opportunity such as this, is too inconsistent for rigorous consumption.

And the same principle should apply down through the grades where we have it that the pupils are to be let off only upon letter of the parents. The annual fair should be made a part of our public school curriculum. It beats going out into the country for a "hike," to look up weeds, bugs, and the like, and beats it all to smash, and yet we understand these "hikes" are pulled off quite frequently. Of course, to incorporate the fair into the school curriculum, might upset the even pose of the superintendent, and the professors, somewhat, but the purpose of the schools is to afford instruction for the pupils rather than snaps for the instructors—which may, or may not, be to the point.

## TURKEY WANTS HELP.

It is reported that the sultan of Turkey has made a vigorous complaint to the German ambassador, declaring that Turkey has been "abandoned" by her allies, bereft of munitions and money, while sustaining single-handed the unequal struggle in the Dardanelles and the Caucasus.

The story may, of course, be a fabrication. Nevertheless, it calls attention to the serious plight in which Turkey finds herself, and doubtless represents the popular feeling among the Turks.

The Turkish people did not want war. They realize that they were dragged by Germany into a tremendous struggle which may end in their destruction. It has doubtless dawned on the nation that the war can serve no Turkish purposes, but at best can only promote the aims of Germany and Austria, and of the young Turk leaders whose own ambitions have led them to league their country with the Teutonic powers.

Germany and Austria undoubtedly meant to give Turkey more help. And if valiant fighting ever deserved support, the Turks deserve it. Both interest and honor bind the Germans to come now to Turkey's aid.

They have tried to do so by means of diplomacy. But diplomacy has not won passage through Roumania for munitions destined for Constantinople. Diplomacy has not yet insured the neutrality of Bulgaria and Greece, though it has thus far checked their inclination toward a junction with the allies.

If Germany and Austria are to give Turkey any real help in her hour of need, they will first have to make a road to Constantinople. And that means driving through southern Russia or piercing the Balkans with an invading column. The next German effort has seemed destined for that theater of war. It was the logical move, to follow the German drive in Russia.

But now the allies are beginning to batter the German line in the west and the Austrian line fronting Italy—doubtless to counteract just such a maneuver. So the Turk is likely to be left alone to fight his own battle, and to lose inevitably unless the central powers can hold the British, French and Italians and simultaneously duplicate their Russian success in the Balkans.

## NEW YORK DISCOVERS PUSHMOBILES.

The New York Herald has just discovered a new and peculiar form of vehicle which seems to have just come into vogue in the juvenile circles of the metropolis. The observing Herald describes its construction as follows, calling it a "wheeled coaster":

You take a packing box about two feet long and any width or thickness, and to the end of it you nail firmly a narrow strip of board or smooth wood, in such manner that the long end of this strip projects some two feet or a little more at right angles with the side of the box. Now to the lower side of this projecting strip you fasten the wheel apparatus of a pair of rolling skates. You then stand upon the board with one foot, holding fast to the upper end of the packing box, and kick yourself along the sidewalk with the other foot; or, if there is a slope to the street (as there generally is in New York), you put both feet on the board and coast down hill.

Read that to any youngster hereabouts, and he'll probably remark: "Rats! We've had 'em here for years."

History doesn't record with certainty the origin of this puerile speed-and-noise masterpiece, or the date of its invention. It seems to be a product of the west, where it's known by its proper appellation "pushmobile." Denver had a great "pushmobile parade" three years ago. The smaller eastern cities are thoroughly familiar with the contraption. Is it possible that it has only now reached New York? Are New York boys as slow and provincial in adopting new-

fangled ideas as their dads are popularly supposed to be?

Dr. Dumba, the Austrian ambassador, says that he may have to go back home because "his estate needs attention." Wonder if the estate of von Papen, the German military attaché involved in the Dumba exposures, doesn't need a little looking after.

Speaking of the high cost of living, a grand opera seat in Uruguay costs \$11.

## Letters of the People

### RAPS THAT FENCE.

Editor News-Times.

In your editorial columns Sunday you gave a timely and very proper jab at the city administration for allowing that eye-sore of a fence on Lincoln way E. across the river from Howard park, to disgrace that thoroughfare.

It is not even a decent looking board fence, as boards are partly off at places, and it is plastered with signs, both of tin and cardboard—much against the law—and never did have a drop of paint on it.

But what may be expected of an administration that allows weeds and grass and underbrush to grow rank on its property to menace people's health, to say nothing of the unsightliness? Small wonder that citizens all about the city do likewise, and little wonder also that a fence would be given any attention, no matter how dilapidated and obnoxious.

Still, one couldn't help hold that with the Interstate fair being held out that highway and thousands of visitors using it, that the city beautiful committee or some kindred body, would have aroused the members of the reform city administration to a real sense of their duty—I was going to say pride, but couldn't for the apparent reason they have none—and have that particular avenue presentable this week. As it is now weeds and underbrush, for nearly the full length of the way to Springbrook park, hide the view of the beautiful St. Joe.

At the time the street car company built the cement walk and fence along Vista av., it was hoped the city would get busy and complete the job by extending the work in front of its own property. But no such good luck. I don't know why it didn't. Probably the money in the treasury, the usual cry of this administration—or the lack of influence of the people of this section with the present as well as several preceding administrations and school boards with regards to living this part of the city any attention.

Anyhow, there is that dilapidated old fence, rank weeds and underbrush, Sample st. bridge nearly as rank as the fence. It is a disgrace, once condemned but still in use, dust—usually as thick as fog off the coast of Maine, all along Lincoln highway E., the most used thoroughfare in the city—and no friend in court.

By the way, why isn't Lincoln highway E. being sprinkled this week? No money in the treasury, or didn't think of it, or don't care a "continental," which?

LINCOLN WAY.

## "FOOLS BOTHER HER"

So Says Sally Salt, Heroine of Mrs. Wilson Woodrow's Enticing Story.

"I can call publicans and sinners, brothers," says Sally, "but fools bother me." Summed up in a few brief words is the character of this remarkable girl, so fresh and virile, so sound, wholesome and sane. Readers will be glad to meet her and sorry to close this book, which was the selection of the publishers for distribution to readers with a coupon clipped from last Sunday's issue. Thousands have secured their copies already, thousands yet will apply for this wonderful story and although the lot is not large at all the branch distributing points the demand will soon deplete the stocks of books spread at convenient distributing points, so it will be good policy for all who desire to take no chances to apply at once for their copies.

The book is full of good things, simply and naturally told and to miss securing this excellent addition to your library would indeed be a disappointment.

If you have overlooked clipping the coupon from "The Sunday News-Times" do so at once. It will not be printed again and you will everlastingly regret it if you do not secure this charming book.

## BITS OF INFORMATION.

Starting as a printer's devil John Christian Watson, now traveling in Canada, rose to be premier of Australia.

German furniture makers impart colors to several native woods by burying them, when freshly cut, for several months in earth mixed with lime and other materials.

Every year more lives are lost by accident and preventable deaths than have been destroyed in this country in all our wars since the Declaration of Independence.

It has been estimated that the earth can maintain a population of 6,000,000,000—a total which will be reached about A. D. 2100 at the present rate of increase.

Ohio has the strongest governor. A recent visitor to Gov. Willis's office is suffering so that he can not lift one of his arms. The governor, said to see his visitor, slapped him heartily on the back.

Alex Swanson of West Concord, N. H., a granite cutter, possesses two peculiar characteristics. His hands work in unison—that is, a movement of one involuntarily causes the other hand to perform the same function, and while he has an abundance of hair on his head, he has never had to use a razor on his face.

Lightning struck a telegraph pole in the upper part of New York city and turned it into a fountain. Investigation showed that the lightning had ruptured a water main beneath the pavement and that the path provided by the tubular pole was the only means of escape for the leaking water.

## GERMANY SHORT ON PAPER.

The Pall Mall Gazette says that the shortage of paper in Germany has probably caused the extinction of one of the oddest specimens of journalism on record. This is a paper printed at Eberswalde, a small town not far from Berlin; for many years it has appeared twice a week, printed on one side only. This is a notice in the paper stated, was done so that it could be used for wrapping up provisions without any possibility of contamination from printers' ink.

## THE MELTING POT

COME! TAKE POTLUCK WITH US.

### HOS' MODERN MELODIES.

Submarines low, Zeppelins high  
Up or down to the bye-and-bye.

Little drops of liquid  
Made from grain of rye,  
Cause a great commotion  
In a town that's dry.

Little Jack Horner  
Sat in a corner  
Filling up on pie

But—  
Little Johnny Bull  
Sits on a pin  
Looking out for a Zeppelin.

Childe Harold's dog howled at the gate,  
Perhaps his tail was caught.

But who will howl at my sad fate,  
Unless perchance my "tales" have brought.

Some smiles to thee good old M. P.  
Adieu! boo-hoo! skidoo!  
I fade away so blue.

HOS.

### Is This a Threat or a Promise?

PERSONAL.—Strictly so but this is my swan song. I shall mail this so it will not get on your desk until the sheriff has me miles away.

HOS.

LLOYD-GEORGE'S book, "Through Terrors to Triumph," or rather the preface to it, is racous as a Chinese song or a Plute tom-tom, but the question remains, Will Great Britain wake up in time for breakfast?

AS a fair ground exhibit Mr. Bryan is attractive and interesting chiefly on account of the utterances which do not reflect public sentiment. Which, we may add, is a consistent performance.

DO your banking early today. The bankers—not the banks—are going to the races.

FAME is as volatile as gasoline. William Sprague, who was the war

governor of Rhode Island, got 10 lines when he died the other day.

TWENTY years is not so much until you count it in human life and experience. When the old timer goes to Springbrook today he will miss the years that have passed and the fair that have been passed less than the people he will not meet in the grandstand and in the exhibition stalls. Twenty years ago it wasn't thought possible to run a fair without Charley Towle, William C. Jackson, John C. Decker, George Reynolds, Chris. Holler and a score of others who could be named after a moment's reflection, but the only one we recall who survives and whose name is in the fair catalogue today is Henry C. Wheeler. Counting in human life and experience it is a long time.

ANOTHER inducement for going to heaven is held out by one of our pastors, who says there will be no dead beats in the select company gathered in that celestial place or condition, as you prefer. Of all the annoyance of this mundane existence the dead beat, in popular estimation, is right up at the head of the procession, and the assurance that he can be shuffled off with this mortal coil provided we are good should stimulate us to renewed efforts in that direction.

"HELP yourself," said the farmer as we walked through his peach orchard and saw the ground covered with ripe, over-ripe and decayed fruit. "It's going to waste. Someway it reminded us of the hundreds of children in the city who love peaches and have no money to buy them."

IF the peace propagandists can do nothing with the highly civilized election of the European eruption what could they expect to accomplish with the highly demoralized and degraded factors in the Mexican ferment? People may prate peace at any price, but we don't believe it can be had for any price.

AND if it could, it wouldn't be worth having.

C. N. F.

## Protection of Birds Not Wholly Inspired By Man's Selfishness

Love of Beauty as Well as Economic Considerations Help Guard Nation's Songsters From Harm.

By Garrett P. Serviss.

One of the great marks of the growing civilization of a nation is its care for the life and happiness of its sub-human inhabitants. We have no reason beyond that of our own egoism for assuming that the earth and its fullness were created solely, or even principally, for our use and enjoyment. The other creatures around us were placed here by the same intelligent Power that made us, and because we have more intelligence than they possess is no reason for our claiming a right to oppress, slay, exterminate or enslave them.

In the eyes of omniscience our intelligence may not be so very wonderful a thing as we imagine, and not at all entitled to govern everything out of its path. On the other hand, it is ennobled when it recognizes not only the rights of more humble creatures, but also its own duty, arising from the mere fact of its superiority, to aid and protect them.

An admirable instance of this is found in the announcement that the United States statute for the protection of migratory birds is to be strictly enforced during the "open season" for game, which is at hand. The provisions of this statute furnish an interesting recognition of one of the most mysterious peculiarities in the life habits of the feathered inhabitants of the air. The birds, for reasons of their own have divided the territory of the United States into two broad zones, one of which is designated as the breeding zone and the other as the wintering zone.

Preservation of Beauty Consideration as Well as Economic Reasons. As defined by the law, the breeding zone includes the states of Oregon, Idaho, Colorado, Nebraska, Iowa, Illinois, Indiana, Ohio, Pennsylvania, New Jersey, which form an irregular line across the country, from the Pacific to the Atlantic, and all the states situated north of them. The wintering zone, on the contrary, comprises all the states lying south of the 10 above named. In both of these zones the killing of "game birds" is permitted within the months enumerated in the statute, but the beginning of the open season is, in general, about a month later in the breeding than in the wintering zone. In no case, however, is the shooting of insectivorous birds permitted. These are birds

including nearly all the common species seen about the fields and gardens which habitually devour noxious insects that are injurious to crops, fruits and vegetables.

So far as the terms of the law alone show the purpose is simply the selfish one of preventing the destruction of birds which are useful to farmers and gardeners, though not always recognized as such even by those who enjoy the benefits of their work, in keeping down the insect pests. But, in reality, there is a higher purpose behind (one that is fully recognized by the Audubon societies and other organizations whose insistence has produced the law and obtained its enforcement), and that is to preserve these birds for the sake of their songs and their beauty.

Benefit Derived More Than Likely to Balk Efforts of "Sporting Interests." This is something which is worthy of an advanced civilization. It is legislation inspired by such instincts as those that made the Greeks of antiquity a lasting model to mankind. Only a people like them could afford to make laws openly proclaimed to be intended to preserve ideals of beauty and excellence, and having no relation to selfish or commercial interests.

But, while the expression of such an intention would probably be greeted with ridicule by many of our legislators, the object can be, and has been, attained through the game laws now in existence, and there is every reason to believe that the benefit derived by farmers and horticulturists from the enforcement of these laws will secure them against the efforts of the "sporting interests" for their abrogation or relaxation.

Already there are encouraging reports from some parts of the country that the number of native song birds, and birds that add attraction to the meadows, fields, gardens and woodlands by the splendor of their plumage, is perceptibly increasing. I confess that there was a time when I had a boy's fondness for shooting at a living mark, but I am thankful that I never could be persuaded to kill a bird notable for its beauty, or from whose throat I had heard any of the aerial melodies that only birds can make. A man who would deliberately shoot a hermit thrush, after having heard its chant at sundown, or a mockingbird after its morning song could not be a reader of Shakespeare.

### TOO TERRIBLE.

Would it not be too dreadful if Wilson, off his guard, should trade off Dudley Field Malone for Oswald G. Villard?

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## The Electric Toaster-Stove

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That did good things but did them wrong.

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